

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for location-based conferencing comprising:

receiving from a user a request to initiate a media session, wherein the request defines a target group having members;

selecting members of the target group that are located in a given zone by:

determining respective locations of the members of the target group;

based on the respective locations, determining which members of the target group are located within the given zone;

based on the respective locations, establishing a list of the members of the target group that are located within the given zone by determining a location of the user and ranking the members of the target group in the list based on respective distances between the respective locations and the location of the user;

selecting members of the target group that are at a beginning of the list;

and

initiating the media session between the user and the selected members.
2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the request identifies the user, and wherein the method further comprises:

determining ~~a~~ the location of the user; and

establishing the given zone based on the location of the user.
3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the given zone is an area extending a predefined distance from the user.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the given zone is an area extending a predefined distance above or below the user.

5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the request includes information indicative of the given zone.

6. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the information indicative of the given zone comprises geographic coordinates that define the given zone.

7. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the given zone comprises an area extending out by a predefined radius from the geographic coordinates.

8. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the media session is a push-to-talk media session.

9. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the media session is a real-time media conference.

10. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the target group is defined by a buddy list established by the user.

11. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the request defines the target group at least in part by defining an identifier of the user, and wherein the method further comprises:

looking up the target group based on the identifier of the user.

12. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the given zone is selected from the group consisting of a municipality and a cellular coverage area.

13-14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~14~~1, wherein based on the respective locations, determining which members of the target group are location within the given zone comprises:

determining which of the respective locations are within a predefined distance of the user.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~14~~1, wherein based on the respective locations, determining which members of the target group are located within the given zone comprises:

determining which members of the target group are located within a wireless service area in which the user is also located.

17-19. (canceled)

20. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising initiating a conference call.

21. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising participating in a conference call with the selected members.

22. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising selecting the given zone.

23. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

selecting a given area; and

establishing the given zone to be all areas excluding the given area.

24. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving from the user the request comprises receiving via a communication path comprising an air interface.

25. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving from the user the request comprises receiving the request from a client station.

26. (currently amended) A system comprising:

a processor;

data storage; and

machine language instructions stored in the data storage and executable by the processor, in response to a request from a user to initiate a media session with a target group, to:

(i) (a) select members of the target group that are located in a given zone by (i) determining respective locations of the members of the target group, (ii) based on the respective locations, determining which members of the target group are located within the given zone, (iii) based on the respective locations, establishing a list of the members of the target group that are located within the given zone by determining a location of the user and ranking the members of the target group in the list based on respective distances between the respective locations and the location of the user, and (iv) selecting members of the target group that are at a beginning of the list; and

(ii) (b) initiate the media session between the user and the selected members.

27. (canceled)

28. (currently amended) The system of claim 26, wherein the request identifies the user, and wherein the machine language instructions are further executable by the processor to:

determine a the location of the user; and

establish the given zone based on the location of the user.

29. (currently amended) A system comprising:

means for receiving from a user a request to initiate a media session, wherein the request defines a target group having members;

means for selecting members of the target group that are located in a given zone by:

determining respective locations of the members of the target group;

based on the respective locations, determining which members of the target group are located within the given zone;

based on the respective locations, establishing a list of the members of the target group that are located within the given zone by determining a location of the user and ranking the members of the target group in the list based on respective distances between the respective locations and the location of the user;

selecting members of the target group that are at a beginning of the list;

and

means for initiating the media session between the user and the selected members.